



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

18 AUGUST 2022

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Sacramento – Suspects Accused of Hate Crimes in Robberies That Targeted Asian Women

(U) Prosecutors have added hate crime enhancements to charges against two suspects accused of targeting Asian women in robberies as the victims left south Sacramento shopping centers. Patrol officers in April and May responded to a series of robberies along the Stockton Boulevard corridor, the Sacramento Police Department announced Wednesday in a news release. Investigators believe the suspects were targeting Asian women leaving shopping centers. Police said the suspects assaulted the women, causing injury and stealing thousands-of-dollars in cash, jewelry, and other belongings. In at least one of the robberies, the victim told police the suspect had a handgun.

SOURCE: 17 August 2022, [The Sacramento Bee](#)

(U) San Jose – Fifth Suspect Arrested in String of Home Invasion Robberies

(U) Police arrested a fifth suspect in a string of home invasion robberies in San Jose. San Jose police arrested Israel Mejia, 24, on Wednesday for his role in at least three incidents. Four other suspects, including a juvenile, are already in custody. Authorities said on 31 May officers responded to a home invasion. Police said five-to-six people bound an elderly couple with belts, brandished a handgun, and violently assaulted the victims. The suspects took several items including bank cards, jewelry, and the victim's vehicle, before fleeing the scene. The stolen vehicle was used a short time later in a second home invasion. Police said five suspects held a man and his 15-month-old at gunpoint. The suspects threatened to shoot the child and kidnapped the victim, forcing him to go to his bank, demanding that he withdraw money from his account.

SOURCE: 17 August 2022, [KTVU](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Florida – US Reports Spike in Weapons Smuggling to Haiti and the Caribbean

(U) Miami – US authorities have seen a spike in weapons smuggling to Haiti and the Caribbean in recent months, officials said on Wednesday, promising to boost efforts to combat the trade that is fueling rampant gang violence in Haiti and rising crime in the region. The announcement follows several outbreaks of gang violence in Haiti that included gun battles in downtown Port-au-Prince, and comes as countries such as the Bahamas and Jamaica are reporting rising incidence of gun-linked homicides. "Not only have we seen a marked uptick in the number of weapons, but a serious increase in the caliber and type of firearms being illegally trafficked," said Anthony Salisbury, Special Agent in Charge of Homeland Security Investigations Miami.

SOURCE: 17 August 2022, [Reuters](#)

(U) Missouri – Missouri Man Charged for Threatening Election Official in Arizona

(U) Tecumseh – The US Justice Department charged a Missouri man for leaving threatening voicemails for an election official in Arizona, marking the sixth federal criminal case brought so far to combat the rising tide of threats against local election officials. Walter Lee Hoornstra, 50, of Tecumseh was charged in an indictment with one count of communicating an interstate commerce threat and a second count of making a threatening phone call.

SOURCE: 17 August 2022, [Reuters](#)

UNCLASSIFIED

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Afghanistan – Death Toll from Kabul Mosque Blast Reaches 21

(U) Kabul – A blast that targeted a Kabul mosque during evening prayers on Wednesday killed 21 people, Kabul police said on Thursday, as the United Nations expressed concern over a growing number of civilian casualties from explosions. A police spokesperson reported another 33 people had been injured in the blast, which witnesses reported shattered the windows of buildings near the mosque in a northern Kabul neighborhood. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the incident and authorities did not publicly assign blame.

SOURCE: 18 August 2022, [Reuters](#)

(U) Brazil – US Treasury Eyes Brazil Drug Gang Ties to Illegal Gold Mines

(U) Sao Paulo – The US government is concerned about links between Brazil's largest drug gang and illegal gold mining in the Amazon rainforest. The undersecretary for terrorism and financial intelligence said he had learned alarming information about ties between the First Capital Command (PCC), a major global cocaine trafficker, and wildcat gold miners ravaging the Amazon. US President Joe Biden imposed financial sanctions in December 2021 on the PCC, which was born in the prisons of Sao Paulo in the early 1990s. Now Brazil's most powerful criminal organization, the PCC is among drug gangs helping to flood Europe with cocaine.

SOURCE: 17 August 2022, [Reuters](#)

(U) Estonia – Estonia Repelled Major Cyber Attack After Removing Soviet Monuments

(U) Tallinn – Estonia has repelled "the most extensive cyber-attacks since 2007," it said on Thursday, shortly after removing Soviet monuments in a region with an ethnic Russian majority. Russian hacker group Killnet claimed responsibility for the attack, stating on its Telegram account on Wednesday it had blocked access to more than 200 state and private Estonian institutions, such as an online citizen identification system.

SOURCE: 17 August 2022, [Reuters](#)

(U) Mexico – US Travel Advisory Warns of Crime and Kidnapping in Several Mexico States

(U) Tijuana – The US Department of State has reissued a travel warning Tuesday in multiple Mexico states, warning travelers of high risk of crime and kidnapping. The State Department warns travelers about cartel-related crime as well. The travel advisory comes on the heels of a shelter-in-place alert in the Tijuana region, where cartel violence erupted days before. Mexico sent hundreds-of-troops to the border region after cars and businesses were set on fire, and images of the destruction. Aside from the warnings for everyday citizens, US government employees have stricter rules. For example, they aren't allowed to travel alone, or to remote areas, cannot travel between cities after dark, and can't use taxis, but must use dispatched cars instead, like those from Uber.

SOURCE: 17 August 2022, [NBC 4](#)

(U) Niger – US Embassy in Niger Issues Security Alert of Increased Terrorist Activity

(U) Niamey – The US Embassy in Niger issued a security alert Wednesday advising US citizens of an increase in terrorist activity in areas closer to Niamey following two recent attacks along RN6 highway west of the capital. US Embassy personnel may move freely within most of Niamey's city limits, however security escorts are required for embassy personnel when frequenting the La Pilule riverfront area, dining at le Sloughi Restaurant, and visiting Three Sisters recreational area.

SOURCE: 17 August 2022, [US Embassy in Niger](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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